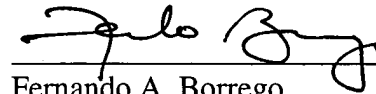


**REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**

Applicants respectfully request examination of the present application as amended herein. Claims 1-11 have been cancelled. Upon entry of the above preliminary amendment, claims 12-21 remain pending in the application. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 1/22/04



Fernando A. Borrego  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 34,780

BASF Corporation  
1609 Biddle Avenue  
Wyandotte, MI 48192-3736  
(734) 324-6193